

sown decades ago, perhaps even a century ago, with the advent of the Soviet Union as well as the decline of the Ottoman Empire.

Here is what I do know. The Armenians and the Azerbaijanis deserve to live and prosper in peace. Nations require territorial integrity. I am hopeful for the future that these two nations, both with a proud and great history, will be able to resume their relationship in peace and that the parties work, in good faith, to resolve their issues without bullets.

God bless the people there and through His will it is my hope peace will prevail.

#### HONORING JOHN LEEPER

#### HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of John Leeper of Dublin, Virginia, who passed away on October 2, 2021, at the age of 59. Mr. Leeper served his local community as a Police Officer with the Pulaski Police Department for over 29 years.

Mr. Leeper was born on December 25, 1961, in Washington, DC, to Walter Marue Leeper and Minnie Lamon Leeper. Before beginning his career with the police department, he served his country in the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army. He recently retired after spending a career selflessly serving others. In his 29 years with the Pulaski Police Department, Mr. Leeper was a well-known leader on the force and in the community. He never met a stranger and welcomed all with a smile.

Colleagues and community members remember Mr. Leeper for his kindness and dedication to the safety and security of his community. He trained numerous other officers and many colleagues looked upon him as a mentor. His hard work and service will not be forgotten.

Mr. Leeper was preceded in death by his mother, Minnie Lamon Leeper. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca Mills Leeper; his son, Austin Leeper and his fiancée, McKayla Huff; his step-daughters, Hunter Riddle and Laura Reece; and his father, Walter M. Leeper. I would like to offer my condolences to them and the people of Pulaski County on the loss of this dedicated public servant.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN C. HARRIS

#### HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John C. Harris for his dedication and service to the Central Valley.

Mr. Harris and his family's commitment to agriculture spans the past century. Harris Farms has grown into one of the largest agriculture businesses in the nation. Harris Ranch Inn & Restaurant provides some of the highest quality beef in the United States, and they maintain an emphasis on hiring Coalinga-Huron Unified School District students.

Mr. Harris was instrumental in the funding and development of the Boys and Girls Club

in Huron, an organization which was absent from the community until the involvement of Mr. Harris and his associates.

Aside from being pivotal in the development of the Boys and Girls club, Mr. Harris has also provided scholarships to local students for years. Since 2013, he has helped provide 147 different scholarships to students.

Mr. Harris has been vital in providing much needed assistance throughout the community. Recently, he was an intricate part of the development of a new Animal Control Shelter in the City of Huron.

Whether it be through his dedication to community service, his philanthropy, or providing jobs to local students to help develop career skills, Mr. Harris is a vital member of the community within the 21st Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible work done by Mr. John C. Harris.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK D. HARGROVE, SR.

#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but great respect that I take this time to remember Frank D. Hargrove, Sr., who passed away on October 16, 2021, at the age of 94. After serving in WWII in the Army Air Corps, Frank started his political career in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1981. He went on to serve for 28 years, which is the longest tenure of any state legislator in Hanover County's history.

Frank was an adventurous young man, he learned to fly planes as a teenager and, enlisted in the Army Air Corps after graduating high school. After his service, he attended Virginia Tech where he often reminisced about his adventures with his airplane over his studies. Upon graduating, he joined his father's insurance business. He was a brilliant businessman; he assembled a team, and together they built up A.W. Hargrove Insurance Agency. He grew what started as a small family business into one of the largest independent insurance agencies in Virginia before selling it in 1997.

When Frank married Oriana Robertson, she took credit for channeling his energy to productive ends. This same energy led Frank to teach himself to sail, pick-up long-distance biking and running, and be well known for his flying stories. In 1960, he and a group of friends promoted building the Hanover County Airport, which was eventually named after him in recognition of his work.

In 1981, Frank was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates where he loved making the government work for his constituents and believed their trust had to be earned every day. He represented his constituents by serving in leadership on different committees, one being the Vice-Chairman of the Commerce and Labor Committee. One of his proudest accomplishments was serving as the legislative member on the Board of Trustees of the Virginia War Memorial, where he was instrumental in securing funding to restore the Memorial Shrine and Building and to create the education center and programs. He spent his off time supporting charitable organizations

and was especially proud of his work on the governing bodies of Ferrum College and Randolph-Macon College. Frank aligned his philosophy closely with that of Thomas Jefferson's maxim "the government that governs best, governs least". Although his constituents did not always agree with his stances, they continued to elect him until he retired.

Frank's life was filled with patriotism and public service. He will be missed for his direct manner, vice grip handshake, and storytelling. He is survived by his children and their spouses, Dale Alderman (Richard Alderman), Frank Jr. (Elizabeth), Stewart (Lynn), and Wellesley (Kim), and grandchildren Oriana (Douglas Fletcher), Stewart (Dana), Sarah, Mark (Amber), Frank III, Madeleine, Mollie, Hannah, Graeme, and Bailey, and one great-grandchild, Stewart.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the many contributions of Frank D. Hargrove, Sr.

#### HOMETOWN HERO—MERREL FRANKLIN (FRANK) ADAMS, JR.

#### HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Merrel Franklin (Frank) Adams, Jr. of Southlake, TX who served in the U.S. Marine Corp and USMC Reserves during his 20 years of service.

Over the weekend, I had the honor of awarding Frank the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation. Frank courageously flew during the Vietnam War and served seven months with the infantry as a Forward Air Controller, Air Liaison Officer and Battalion Operations Officer.

Among many of Frank's accomplishments during his service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross while flying the A4 Skyhawk, which saved American troops who were trapped by enemy fire, the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for repelling enemy attack and causing many enemy casualties and 6 Air Medals for missions over North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Frank also received the Purple Heart for injuries he received when he was shot down by enemy ground fire. When he ejected, he had to out-run and fire upon the enemy until he was rescued by a helicopter.

It is an honor to recognize the distinguished veterans of TX 24 and to preserve their stories for future generations of Americans through the Congressional Veteran Commendation. I thank Frank for his service and the sacrifices he made to protect our great nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, regretfully, I was unable to vote on November 1st and 2nd. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 340; YEA on Roll Call No. 341; YEA on Roll Call No. 342; YEA

on Roll Call No. 343; YEA on Roll Call No. 344; YEA on Roll Call No. 345; YEA on Roll Call No. 346; YEA on Roll Call No. 347; YEA on Roll Call No. 348; YEA on Roll Call No. 349; YEA on Roll Call No. 350; YEA on Roll Call No. 351; YEA on Roll Call No. 352; and YEA on Roll Call No. 353.

HONORING THE 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF PEP BOYS

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of a Philadelphia-founded institution: Pep Boys Auto Service and Tires. It was one hundred years ago that a group of Navy buddies with a passion for cars set out to make a living and, in the process, helped to invent the modern automotive aftermarket parts and service industry.

As the industry and consumer preferences have changed, so too has Pep Boys. First providing just car parts, then parts and repairs, and now making the shift to providing primarily automotive service for a growing population of American vehicles and fast-growing fleets.

To ensure there will be enough skilled technicians to keep our communities moving, Pep Boys also created a scholarship program for aspiring technicians, invested in training and, in a nod to its founders, pledged its loyalty and support to veterans causes.

Today, Pep Boys has nearly 1,000 locations across the country and is now once again looking to the future, investing in the ability to service electric vehicles. Pep Boys is committed to serving its customers and communities into the next century with its promise: We go further to help you go farther.

As the chair of the Auto Care Caucus and the representative for Philadelphia, I would like to recognize Pep Boys today before the United States House of Representatives.

THANKING MR. CALVIN WARE FOR  
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

**HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Madam Speaker, on his retirement in September 2021, we rise today to thank Mr. Calvin Ware for his over 22 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives as a member of the Logistics and Support Team.

Calvin began his career in 1990 working at the Smithsonian Institution, in the house-keeping department. He left to pursue other job opportunities, until he secured a job on Capitol Hill. Calvin first began working as a temporary employee with the Logistics Department in the Labor Room for about two years. He left for a brief period to work at Home Depot, then received a phone call from George Simler, a former Manager, who implored him to apply for a full-time opening in the Logistics Department. He was immediately hired, thus began his 22-year career with the

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

While he started in the Labor Room, Calvin was soon asked to work in the Rayburn Penthouse, where cages were stored with excess furniture, a position which required a level of responsibility and dependability. He moved around the organization, working for the Office Supply Store, reporting to John Hodges, Manager and Tom Coyne, Director.

Calvin proved himself to be a reliable employee, and as such, was tasked to work in the Logistics equipment room for several years, providing check-out access to Audio/Visual equipment, and the use of the government fleet of vehicles. It was in this position that he had a lot of access to Members and their staff. When this function was reassigned, Calvin moved over to become a Receiving and Warehousing Specialist tasked with checking on excess furniture in the hallways of the Congressional Buildings. Ironically, he is again reporting to his former Director, Tom Coyne, now the Chief Logistics Officer for Logistics & Support (L&S). It is in this position that Calvin will retire his career.

Calvin remembers back to the first CAO, Jay Eagen, who used to meet with the Logistics staff on a variety of issues. Jay developed a program for extended schooling for staff to complete their High School level education and to receive a diploma. While Calvin had previously attended Anacostia High School, he never completed his schooling. Through this opportunity, Calvin was able to complete and receive his diploma, and even considered going on to higher education, but instead elected to go to work full-time.

Calvin remembers fondly, his favorite boss, Freddie Bowles, Manager, Logistics, who retired a few years back. He credits Freddie with mentoring him and showing him the ropes. Some other bosses who also had a great impact on him were Bobby Small, Manager, Allen King, Supervisor, and Kevin Chambers, former Supervisor. He built many fond memories with this staff and credits them with enhancing his enjoyment of his government job.

One such memory that stands out is the time Mohamad Ali was scheduled to visit Capitol Hill. The entire campus was abuzz with excitement, and word was out that he was in the Cannon Caucus Room. He missed his first opportunity to see the legend but received a phone call later that day that he would be in the Capitol. When Calvin arrived for a shot of the fighter, there were mobs of people surrounding him. While on standby, he started talking to a coworker, who arranged for him to meet in a Member's office later that day, where he was able to meet the king in person had a special picture taken with Mohammed Ali and his daughter, Layla, who also became a boxer in her own right. He later met the famous singer, Glen Campbell, and ran into countless other singers and celebrities he could rarely get close to.

In reflecting over his long career, Calvin recalls just where he was on 9/11. Since he had a late arrival to work, he was home and did not have the news on. When he finally turned on the news, he saw the President talking about the unfolding tragedy. Unsure of his next move, Calvin decided to try and make it into work, but when he drew nearer to the Capitol complex, he saw the black smoke emanating from the Pentagon, and immediately turned around and returned home. Dur-

ing the Anthrax scare, Calvin and his team went to the undisclosed location and were tasked with building cubicles for the Members and their staff. Each Member had to have a full PC/monitor set up and Calvin was instrumental in unpacking and delivering these items and other supplies, ensuring the Legislative work of the House could successfully continue. During the earthquake of 10 years ago, Calvin was on Capitol Hill. Once he saw the room sway, he began to evacuate the building remembers the former Chief, Jerry Bennet, standing in the hallways until everyone was evacuated.

Calvin is a well-known lover of all types of music, and possesses a fine singing voice himself, honed by singing in the church choir. As a former football player, basketball player, and boxer, most people remember him as an ardent Washington Football Team fan. Calvin often came to work wearing remnants of the Washington gear and credits his love for football to his Dad, who used to play semi-Pro football, and engaged his young son into the sport. In retirement, Calvin would like to spend more time with his family, three sisters, and many children he helped to raise.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Calvin Ware for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish him many wonderful years in retirement and in pursuit of future endeavors.

HONORING THE HEROIC LIFE AND  
SERVICE OF ROBERT G. MITCHELL

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic life of Navy veteran and former Saratoga County Veterans Service Agency Director, Bob Mitchell.

Bob Mitchell was born in 1936 in Saratoga Springs and graduated from Al Penney Police Academy. At the age of 17, Bob enlisted in the Navy in the midst of the Korean War. Bob was initially assigned to serve as a Signalman with Air Transport Squadron Five (VR-5) and played an important role in the occupation of Europe. Later in his career, Bob was assigned to the USS *Gainard*, the ship famously known for its participation in the Cuban Missile Crisis and its help with the Project Mercury space missions.

Bob finished up his twenty years of military service at the Navy Recruiting Station in Buffalo, New York. During his tenure in the Navy, Bob spent over five years in foreign or sea service and retired in 1973 with the rank of Petty Officer First Class. For his courageous service, Bob was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal (6th award), and the Navy Occupational Service Medal with "E" Clasp.

After his retirement, Bob continued to dedicate his life to serving his country and community. He held positions with numerous community institutions and organizations, including the Saratoga Springs Police Department and the Saratoga County Sheriff Department. Eventually, Bob became the Director of the Saratoga County Veteran Service Agency. His tremendous work in this role created life